(ix) All new vehicles are checked for pollution levels at the time of registration and only vehicles conforming to prescribed standards are registered by the Transport Department.

(x) Prosecution drive against the polluting vehicles was launched in April. 1990. through mobile enforcement teams. These teams also conduct checking of vehicles of neighbouring States at entry point. So far, 3.04 lakh vehicles have been checked between April, 1990 and December, 1993 by these teams. During this period 32,808 Nos. of vehicles have been challaned. Besides, pollution control check certificate/certificate of fitness of 97,321 vehicles have been cancelled during the same period.

(xi) Intensive checking of pollution levels of DTC buses was undertaken in February, 1990 and March 1992 in DTC Depots and concerned authorities were advised to undertake corrective steps. Further, DTC buses had to obtain pollution control certificates after six months. Since dated 6-9-93 certification period has been reduced to three months for all types of buses including DTC buses. Besides, Transport Department conducted pollution checking of all DTC buses at their depots. 2889 Nos. of buses were checked of which 750 buses i.e. 26% were found polluting beyond the prescribed standards. DTC has been instructed that polluting buses should not out-shed.

(xii) Transport Department and its authorised centres have checked approx. 23.60 lakh vehicles between March, 1990 and November 1993. During this phase, 18% vehicles have been found polluting in comparison to the 36% polluting vehicles before notification of pollution standards.

(xiii) The Government has started a programme of running battery powered buses so as to minimise vehicular pollution. This programme is under expasnion so that ambient air quality improves in congested.

Encroachment by Migrants in Kaziranga Sanctuary

1028. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the unabated encroachment by illegal migrant from Bangladesh in the Kaziranga Sanctuary which had made the scheme worst for the forest.

(b) what is the precise area of land encroached by the illegal migrants from Bangladesh; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to remove such illegal encroachment from the sanctuary ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) The information has been called from the State Government of Assam and will be laid on the Table of the House.

वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अंतर्गत वनों का विनाश

1029. **श्री शिवचरण सिंह** : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वनों की सुरक्षा के लिए आशयित वन-कानूनों को बनाए जाने के पश्चात् वनों की प्रतिशतता में वृद्धि हुई या ह्रास हुआ है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 और 19 जनवरी, 1991 की अधिसूचना के बावजूद वनों का नाश हुआ है और यदि हां तो उसके क्या कारण है और यदि नहीं, तो वनों की कटाई और अवैध खनन के कितने मामले दर्ज किये गये है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच नहीं है कि केन्द्रीय पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री वन (संरक्षण) कानूनों के उल्लंघन को प्रोत्साहित करते है; और

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री ने खनिज उद्योग संघ, राजस्थान को उक्त अधिसूचना के उल्लंघन में छूट देने का आश्वासन दिया है, यदि हां तो उसके क्या कारण है और यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में उल्लंघन के क्या कारण हैं ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) 1991 की वन स्थिति रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वन आवरण में वृद्धि हुई है।

(ख) अवैध कब्जों, प्रभावी सुरक्षा के लिए अपेक्षित मूलभूत सुविधाओं की कमी जैसे विभिन्न कारणों से वन विनाश और वन भूमि में अवैध खनन के कुछ मामले ध्यान में आए हैं । इस तरह के अपराधों के लिए स्थानीय वन अधिकारियों द्वारा भारतीय वन अधिनियम, 1927 के अंतर्गत मामले दर्ज किए जाते है ।

(ग) यह सच नहीं है ।

(घ) राजस्थान खनिज उद्योग संघ को इस तरह का कोई आश्वासन नहीं दिया गया है । राजस्थान राज्य सरकार द्वारा दी गई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वन क्षेत्रों में खनन या तो न्यायलय के निर्णय के आधार पर या खान विभाग द्वारा दी गई अनुमति के आधार पर की जा रही है।

गुजरात में आरक्षित वन-भूमि

1030. श्री रामसिंह राठवा : क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गुजरात में इस समय आरक्षित वन भूमि क्षेत्र कितना है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इस क्षेत्र की कई एकड भूमि पर गैर-कानूनी अधिभोगियों द्वारा कब्जा कर लिया गया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) इस भूमि पर से गैर-कानूनी अधिभोगियों को हटाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं ।

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Suggestions during Indo-German Economic Conference

1031. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the Indo-German Economic Conference with the German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the suggestion was made to set up a high level joint commission for scientific and technical cooperation, if so, the follow-up action being taken by Government in this behalf ;

(b) whether during the talks the German Chancellor also mooted the suggestion regarding India signing the NPT; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) In his remarks to the Indo-German Business Conference on 3 February 1994, Chancellor Kohl announced that India and Germany have agreed to set up a high level joint mechanism for cooperation in this field of science and technology. Appropriate follow-up action in this regard will be taken by the concerned departments on both sides.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise.

Agreements with Switzerland and Germany and Singapore

1032. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :
MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) What was the outcome of Prime Minister's visit to Davos, and Germany and